


# Immigrants and Refugees: Oversees Screening and Management of New Arrivals

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# CDC Technical Instructions (TI): Overview

- ◆ Provide mandated procedures for overseas medical examination
  - ◆ Pertain to immigrants and refugees moving to the U.S. **permanently**
  - ◆ Include the classification system for TB (and other diseases) based on medical examination
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# Rationale

- ◆ Old TI from 1991 are outdated
  - Treatment guidelines outdated
  - Do not address LTBI
- ◆ The percent of TB among the non-U.S.-born is increasing every year
- ◆ Institute of Medicine (IOM) TB report recommended making changes to overseas screening to reduce U.S. morbidity among the non-U.S.-born

# Technical Instructions: Implementation

## ◆ Being phased in country by country

Applicants for U.S. immigration being screened according to the 2007 Technical Instructions for Tuberculosis Screening and Treatment by country, population, and start date, as of February 12, 2008.\*

Country	Population	Start date
Kenya	Refugees (includes Ethiopians, Somalis, and Sudanese)	January 1, 2008
Mexico	All applicants	October 1, 2007
Nepal	Refugees (Bhutanese)	December 13, 2007
Philippines	All applicants	October 1, 2007
Tanzania	Refugees (Burundian)	January 1, 2008
Thailand	Refugees (includes Burmese and Hmong refugees)	April 9, 2007
Turkey	All applicants	February 4, 2008
Vietnam	All applicants	February 1, 2008

\* Refer to [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dq/panel\\_2007.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dq/panel_2007.htm) for current information.

# Medical Examination Requirements

## Old TI

Age:  $\geq 15$  yrs  
Valid for 6 months  
prior to immigration  
TST: Not done  
  
CXR:  $\geq 15$  yrs  
  
CXR not done if  
pregnant

## New TI

Age:  $\geq 15$  yrs  
Valid for 3 months  
prior to immigration  
for B1 classification  
TST: Age 2-14 years  
TB rate 20/100,000  
TST of known contacts  
CXR:  $\geq 15$  yrs and  
< 15 yrs & TST  $\geq 5$ mm  
CXR also required for  
pregnant women

# Medical Examination Requirements

## Laboratory Screening

Old TI

15 yrs if CXR or  
symptoms for TB:  
Smears for AFB x 3

New TI

Symptomatic,  
abnormal physical  
or CXR, HIV  
positive:

Smears for AFB x 3

Cultures

Drug Sensitivities if  
culture positive

Sputum induced if  
unable to produce

# Medical Examination Requirements

## Tuberculosis Treatment

### Old TI

Treatment guidance  
outdated

Class A (sputum  
smear positive)  
treated until smear  
negative

Treatment initiation on  
some Class B1  
arrivals

### New TI

Treatment guidance  
2004 ATS Guidelines

Most patients will be  
fully treated before  
arrival w DOT

Treatment may be  
initiated on children  
2-14 yrs w TST  
 $\geq 10$ mm or who are  
contacts

# Medical Examination Requirements

## Management of Contacts

Old TI

Not applicable

New TI

TST for all contacts.

If TST  $\geq$  5mm,  
evaluation/CXR

Evaluated q3 months if  
not treated

TST repeated q 3  
months until 8 wks  
post-exposure

Prophylactic treatment  
if <4 yrs or  
immunocompromised



# Medical Examination Requirements

## Pre-Departure Clearance

### Old TI

Not applicable

Paperwork: Medical forms traveled w arrival and processed at U.S. port of entry

Paperwork mailed or emailed to state HDs


### New TI

Additional screening may be required within 3 weeks of departure

In addition to paper forms, electronic data transfer of data to U.S.

Class A and B1 cases reported to U.S. embassy upon detection

# TB Classification System

- ◆ Used same designations as old TI, but categories are different
  - ◆ Categories include site of disease and treatment status
  - ◆ LTBI and contacts included in classification scheme
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# Massachusetts Implementation of New TI


- ◆ Letter to arrivals has been revised
- ◆ Notification letter to LBOH has been revised
  - One letter for all classifications
  - Clearly lists LBOH responsibilities
- ◆ Clinical guideline created for each classification
  - Outlines LBOH responsibilities
  - Lists clinic/provider responsibilities

# Class A TB with waiver

- ◆ Old classification: sputum smear positive
- ◆ New classification:
  - Sputum smear or culture positive
  - Require treatment overseas
  - May occasionally get a waiver from Homeland Security to travel prior to completion of therapy

# Massachusetts Management

## Class A TB with waiver

- ◆ Manage as any other confirmed case transferring into the state
  - ◆ LBOH to contact and get into clinic ASAP
  - ◆ Outreach assigned to assist LBOH
  - ◆ Follow until treatment completion
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# Class B1 TB

- ◆ Old classification: TB, clinically active, not infectious. Abnormal CXR w negative sputum smears
- ◆ New classifications - B1 TB, Pulmonary:
  - No treatment: Exam or CXR suggest pulmonary TB, but sputum smears & cultures negative
  - Completed treatment: Diagnosed w pulmonary TB and completed treatment with DOT prior to departure

# Class B1 TB

## New classification (cont.)

- ◆ B1 TB, Extrapulmonary: Evidence of extrapulmonary TB, classified as:
  - No treatment
  - Current treatment
  - Completed treatment

# Massachusetts Management


## Class B1 TB: no treatment

- ◆ Classify as a TB-active Suspect
- ◆ LBOH to contact and get into clinic
- ◆ Outreach assigned to assist LBOH
- ◆ LBOH to administer TST (unless positive overseas)
- ◆ Evaluation: physical, history, CXR, sputum specimens x 3, specimens for extrapulmonary as indicated
- ◆ Treatment as indicated
- ◆ Determine if final status is TB disease or LTBI
- ◆ Follow until treatment completion



# Massachusetts Management

## Class B1 TB: Completed treatment


- ◆ Not classified as TB suspect or case
  - ◆ LBOH to contact and get into clinic
  - ◆ Outreach assigned to assist LBOH
  - ◆ Evaluation: Get end-of-therapy CXR; obtain sputum specimens (or other specimens for extrapulmonary) if symptomatic or at provider's discretion
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# Class B2 TB, LTBI Evaluation

- ◆ Old B2 classification: TB, not clinically active, not infectious. Abnormal CXR, no sputum smears required
- ◆ New classification: B2 LTBI Evaluation
  - TST  $\geq 10$  mm ( $\geq 5$ mm if HIV positive)
  - CXR normal
  - No clinical findings of TB
  - Not started on LTBI treatment
  - Currently on LTBI treatment
  - Completed LTBI treatment
  - Primarily children age 2-14 yrs

# Massachusetts Management Class


## B2 TB: LTBI Evaluation

- ◆ Not classified as TB suspect or case
  - ◆ LBOH to contact and get into clinic
  - ◆ Outreach assigned to assist LBOH
  - ◆ Evaluation: history, CXR, treatment as indicated
  - ◆ LBOH to skin test other family members (usually adults)
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# Class B3 TB, Contact Evaluation

- ◆ Old B3 classification: Has not been used for years
- ◆ New classification: B3 Contact Evaluation
  - Not started on preventive treatment
  - Currently on preventive treatment
  - Completed preventive treatment
- ◆ Type of source case will also be listed (pan-sensitive, MDR, other drug resistance, culture negative, culture results n/a)

# Massachusetts Management Class B3 TB: Contact Evaluation

- ◆ No follow-up if two negative TSTs (providing no new exposure)
  - ◆ If positive TST, manage as Class B2 TB LTBI Evaluation arrivals
  - ◆ Outreach assigned to arrival LBOH to skin test other family members (usually adults)
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